

# A. A. JONES HAS A STRONG PULL IN THE VOTERS OF PECOS VALLEY

Ralph Ely is Also Strong in the Valley and the Republicans, Though Few in Number There, May "Mix" Things Considerably With Their Democratic Brethren in the Coming Election This Fall.

By GUTHRIE SMITH.

ROSWELL, N. M., June 1.—The development of the certainty that A. A. Jones, now first assistant secretary of the United States department of the interior, will be the Democratic nominee for the United States senate, has done more to increase the hope of the Democrats of the Pecos valley than anything else could have done, said a Republican worker here today. "The people of this district have unbounded faith in his integrity and ability. They believe that he would soon become one of the commanding national figures."

You recommend Mr. Jones very highly indeed, I said. "I infer that you yourself mean to the belief which you say the public generally has of him. Will you vote for him and support him?" I asked.

"I don't know that I would," was his answer. "I may, and I may not. I cannot say this far in advance. Jones will receive a heavy Republican vote in the Pecos valley, a vote that neither the Democrats nor the Republicans will be able to hold," said a prominent Democrat, who said that he would not have his name mentioned in connection with the prospect.

Jones Has Many Supporters.

This feeling of enthusiasm for Jones is by no means confined to the Pecos valley, which is unquestionably the citadel of strength of the Democratic forces. This feeling of combined hope and enthusiasm grows by leaps and bounds, since the delegate convention in Albuquerque last Wednesday, when Jones was elected to an elevation which is said to have been the greatest ever paid to man by a New Mexico convention.

"Give us a ticket headed by Woodrow Wilson, followed by that distinguished citizen of New Mexico, A. A. Jones," said Judge Granville A. Richardson, of Roswell, in the convention, "and the imperial county of Chavez will add 300 Democratic votes to the number of almost 2100 registered in our primaries the other day."

There will be profound gloom in the Republican camps if the imperial county of Chavez does any such thing. And if the minor counties of Eddy and Roosevelt poll a proportionate Democratic vote, there will be nothing left to do but hang out the crepe and send for the undertaker. This is the enthusiastic view of the Democrats, who find so much of encouragement in the conditions of today.

Republicans Are Not-enthusiastic.

The hope of the Republicans is that nothing like the party strength will be polled in these three counties in November. They hold that the overwhelming strength of the Democratic party is within itself a weakness, in that, since a Democratic nomination is equivalent to election, the sovereign Democratic voters do not take the trouble to go to the polls on election day. The Democratic leaders declare that, whatever may have been the custom in the past, the maximum strength of the party will be registered this year.

In 1911, Chavez county gave McDonald 1284 votes, which is considerably under 2100 or 2600. In 1912, when only a congressman and the presidential electors were being elected, Chavez county gave Ferguson only 1444. This latter was the election in which Ferguson ran opposite Nathan Jaffe, of Roswell, a man who had served well as territorial secretary and stood very high.

Valley Strongly Democratic.

That this Pecos valley Democratic vote is Democratic, under any and all circumstances, is made clear by an analysis of the vote of 1911 and 1912. The fact that a "favorite son" of the district may be a candidate on the opposite ticket does not materially affect the result. When these Democrats go to the polls, they do not lack a great deal of "voting her strength."

In 1911, when Holm O. Bursum was the Republican nominee for governor, ex-governor Herbert J. Haskin, a resident of this district, made a tour of the state speaking against Bursum, denouncing him as severely as could be done in the language without running into a snag in the libel law. Notwithstanding that he was so bitterly opposed by a resident of the district, Bursum received 645 votes, 289 in Eddy and 351 in Roosevelt. Jaffe received 474 in Chavez, 236 in Eddy and 118 in Roosevelt. Consideration must be given to the fact that the total vote in 1912 was much lighter than in 1911, there being no state officer but a congressman at all, but it remains a fact that the Democratic vote is Democratic, regardless of any personal ties which, in other localities, would conflict and seriously affect the result.

McDonald the Enigma.

The eternal question in this valley, as elsewhere, is as to whether or not McDonald will seek re-nomination. This is true in Republican quarters, no less than in Democratic circles. The big hope in the Republican camps is that the Democrats will nominate McDonald. Don't make any mistake about this—the sentiment is unmistakable. The only fear the Republicans entertain is that McDonald will not be re-nominated for governor.

"Will governor McDonald receive as heavy a vote in the Pecos valley as he did in 1911?" I asked one of the big Democrats of Roswell.

"He will receive more votes," he answered. "You understand that the vote will be a great deal heavier this year."

"Yes. What we want to know is whether you think he will receive a heavier proportionate vote this year?" "I believe he will. I certainly think he will get the full Democratic strength."

Radical Republican View.

A Republican expressed an opinion which did not quite coincide with this Democratic view just related. (There are Republicans—a few of them—in the Pecos valley, regardless of the prevailing belief to the contrary. In the Democratic county convention in Las Vegas last week, A. A. Jones was re-elected and marveled greatly that a real Democratic convention should be held in San Miguel county. The presence of Republicans in the Pecos valley is as much of a marvel as a Democratic convention in San Miguel county.) Said this Republican: "Ninety-five percent of the decent Democrats of Chavez county are opposed to governor McDonald, opposed to him, bitterly and will do all they can to bring about his defeat." This view is extremely radical. It is so extreme as not to be debatable, yet I have heard it expressed in Albuquerque and Carlsbad, as well as in Roswell. This exceedingly bitter feeling does exist against governor McDonald, though it is in isolated quarters. Witness the incident of the enormous sign which was painted and put up on one of the main streets of Socorro, carrying in its wording a deliberate insult to the governor, on the occasion of one of his visits to the New Mexico school of mines.

Ralph Ely is Strong.

Another unusual belief was expressed by this same Republican. "Ralph C. Ely is very strong indeed, in the Pecos valley. The appeal he is making to the people pleases them mightily. I would not be at all surprised to see him elected to the full delegation from Chavez, Eddy and Roosevelt counties, if the delegations think that he has any chance. I don't know that he will, but he has a very good chance. I think the delegations from these three counties will be unhampered as to instructions for anybody."

In spite of the fact that he believes there is a strong probability that Ely will receive the three delegations, he thinks Bursum has gained appreciable strength in the Pecos valley, since 1911. There is a big reversion of sentiment as regards Bursum, he declared. "Many who fought him most bitterly in 1911, will support him quite as earnestly in 1912. They have learned that they were deceived before, as to Bursum's character and record."

Hubbell an Able Man.

"Frank A. Hubbell will poll the full Republican strength of the three counties, if he should be the nominee," this man continued. "He will be favored over Carson for the nomination, too. I believe he is a much abler man than he is given credit for being, in some of the executive, I mean to business and executive, ability more than anything else. He has done a vast deal of experiment work in feeding, and of course that is of the highest value to the people of our section."

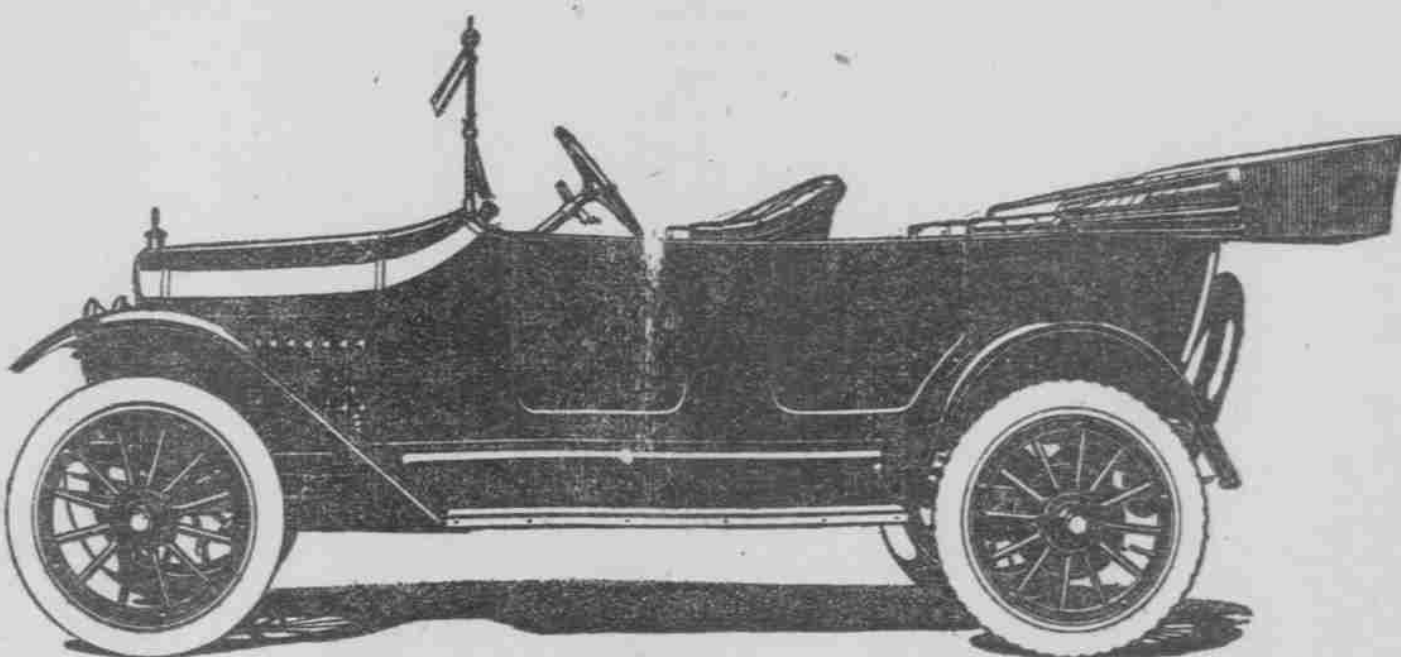
J. O. Fuller for the nomination for attorney general. He is the ablest Republican attorney in the state of New Mexico."

I asked one of Fuller's best friends, a Democrat, what he knew about this boom of Fuller for attorney general. "I do not think there is a great deal in it," he replied. "Fuller is not a candidate so far as I know. I presume, though, that he would not decline the nomination. Once in every little while some newspaper will get out a ticket of state officers. Fuller has been placed in nomination on several of these newspaper tickets. I think that is about the extent of his candidacy."

Other Pecos Valley Candidates.

R. D. Bowers, retiring chairman of the so-called "Bull Moose" Democrats of the Pecos valley, here as a possible nominee for the supreme court. A boom has been launched for Harry J. Patton of Portales and Clovis, for the Democratic nomination for attorney general. It is said here by John W. Poe's friends that he is not a candidate for governor, and that he would not even consider the nomination, much less seek it. He is now on an automobile trip through the state of Colorado.

The idea of Isaac Barth's candidacy for governor is so new to the people of the Pecos valley that they are not yet used to it. They think he is a fine man, of unassailable character and standing, but they had not been accustomed to thinking of him as gubernatorial timber. If he receives the nomination, he will be heartily supported by his party in this district.



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It is said here by John W. Poe's friends that he is not a candidate for governor, and that he would not even consider the nomination, much less seek it. He is now on an automobile trip through the state of Colorado. The idea of Isaac Barth's candidacy for governor is so new to the people of the Pecos valley that they are not yet used to it. They think he is a fine man, of unassailable character and standing, but they had not been accustomed to thinking of him as gubernatorial timber. If he receives the nomination, he will be heartily supported by his party in this district.

## HIGHLAND PARK STREETS BEING GRADED BY CITY

Extensive street improvement work, in addition to paving, is being carried on by the street and grades department under the direction of alderman J. W. Fisher. Much of the work lies in the northeastern section of the city. The city forces are now grading Cooper street from the east line of the Highland Park addition to the foot of the mountain. Federal street, from the paved portion to the mountain, a distance of two blocks, is also being graded. Work will start shortly on the grading of Douglas street, from Cactus street to the city limits. The road also Bihee street between the main two points, a distance of eight blocks. A top surfacing of Caliche is being put on Hueso street, between Cobada and Stevens avenue, Gramma, Luna and Copia, between Hueso and Montana streets, and Copia from Hueso to Bliss. Kansas street is being put on grade between Blacker and Curri streets. The gutters of unpaved streets in the district both above and below the tracks are to be cleaned out weekly with a new grader which the city has purchased.

RICHMOND, CALIF., POLICE.—Chief of police Charles Walker and deputy sheriff J. Kirkpatrick, of Richmond, Calif., left Wednesday night for that city with Archie Williams, alias "Commodore" Turner, who is said to be wanted on a burglary and assault to murder charge there. Williams was arrested in El Paso several days ago. It was found necessary to obtain extradition papers for Williams, and deputy Kirkpatrick continued to Austin, where he obtained the necessary papers. Williams, according to the warrant held by the two officers, shot a policeman in a patrol duty in that city about four months ago.

## JUDGE JACKSON FINES S. T. JONES FOR CONTEMPT

S. T. Jones, manager of a valley club, was found guilty of contempt of court by Judge Ivan M. Jackson in the 34th district court Wednesday afternoon and was sentenced to three days in jail and assessed a fine of \$100. Jones was charged with contempt in

reopening a so-called social club after a temporary injunction had been granted closing the Rio Grande Valley Farmers' Cooperative association, known as the Leder Star Inn, with which he was connected. When the club was reopened, it was alleged, it was in the name of the Valley Inn.

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